

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 EB-07

COME-00 AID-05 SIL-01 LAB-04 TRSE-00 DIWY-01 PA-01

STR-04 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 OMB-01 ABF-01

AGR-05 OES-03 /095 W

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R 141700Z AUG 75

FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6269

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE IAEA VIENNA 7022

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: UNIDO, AORG, AFIN, EAID

SUBJECT: UNIDO-GROUP B MEETING-UNIDO DRAFT STATUTES AND PROGRAM/
BUDGET

REF: A. STATE 185595; B. GENEVA 6104

SUMMARY: GROUP B MET AUGUST 14 ON SHORT NOTICE BY CHAIRMAN
(VON SCHENCK, SWITZERLAND) TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON (A) DRAFT
STATUTES FOR UNIDO-PROCEDURE FOR THEIR INTERGOVERNMENTAL
CONSIDERATION AND SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS THEREON; (B) ADDEN-
DUM TO UNIDO 1976-77 PROGRAM/BUDGET (REF B); (C) ELECTION
OF GROUP B COUNTRIES TO IDB AND (D) OTHER BUSINESS. FRG
ONLY MAJOR GROUP B COUNTRY ABSENT. END SUMMARY.

1. PROCEDURE FOR INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONSIDERATION
OF DRAFT STATUTES: FOLLOWING REPORT BY U.S. ON
DEVELOPMENTS AT 59TH ECOSOC BEARING ON QUESTION OF
PROCEDURES TO BE ESTABLISHED BY SS-8 FOR CONSIDERATION
OF DRAFT STATUTES, EXCHANGE OF VIEWS INDICATED (A) GENERAL
SUPPORT FOR ESTABLISHMENT BY SS-7 OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL
COMMITTEE (IC) TO EXAMINE DRAFT STATUTES IN THE
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LIGHT OF COMMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED BY GOVERNMENTS

EITHER PRIOR TO OR DURING IC SESSION; (B) VIEWS ON THE PART OF SOME GROUP B MEMBERS THAT IT WOULD BE FRUIT-LESS TO INSIST THAT SIZE OF IC BE SMALLER THAN IDB. AUSTRIA, FOR EXAMPLE, TOOK THE POSITION THAT IC SHOULD BE OPENENDED. JAPAN ARGUED THAT "REAL NEGOTIATION" OF STATUTES MUST EVENTUALLY BE CONDUCTED IN SMALL CONTACT GROUPS AND THAT GROUP B COULD, THEREFORE, BE FLEXIBLE ON SIZE OF IC AS SUCH; (C) GENERAL FEELING THAT AT LEAST SOME IF NOT ALL SESSIONS OF IC SHOULD BE HELD IN VIENNA (AUSTRIANS, FOR EXAMPLE, MAINTAINED THAT VIENNA SHOULD NOT BE EXCLUDED ENTIRELY). US REPORTED AFI COMMENT THAT MINIMUM OF TWO IC SESSIONS WULD BE NECESSARY AND THAT THESE SHOULD BE SPILIT BETWEEN NY AND VIENNA; (D) BROAD FEELING THAT IC SHOULD SUBMIT FINAL REPORT TO 31ST GA. SPEAKER'S CAUTIONED THAT VIEWS EXPRESSED WERE SUBJECT TO POSSIBLE CHANGE DEPENDING ON ATTITUDES OF G-77. WE TOOK LINE SET FORTH IN PARA 3 REF A AS REGARDS DESIRABLE PROCEDURE. THERE WAS ALSO SOME SPECULATION ON WHETHER IT WOULD MAKE SENSE TO EMBARK ON VONQVERSION OF UNIDO INTO AN INDEPENDENT AGENCY BEFORE

HAVING SOME NOTION OF WHAT GOVERNMENTS WHISHED TO DO WITH THE EXPERTS' REPORT ON UN RESTRUCTURING.

2. GOVERNMENTAL COMMENTS ON DRAFT STATUTES:
AUSTRIA, SWITZERLAND, SWEDEN AND UK HAVE HANDED IN OR ABOUT TO HAND IN COMMENTS TO SYG. JAPAN, NETHERLANDS, AUSTRALIA, NORWAY, ITALY, FRG WILL DELIVER THEIRS AT SOME FUTURE DATE. FRG, FOR EXAMPLE, REPORTED BY SWITZERLAND TO BE PLANNING INTER-MINISTERIAL MEETING AUGUST 26 FOR HIGH-LEVEL CLEARNACE OF ITS OBSERVATIONS. JAPAN INDICATED PRIVATELY TO US THAT TOKYO'S COMMENTS ARE SO "SO CONSERVATIVE AND DETAILED" THAT LOCAL JAPANESE MISSION RECOMMENDING THEY BE WITHHELD FOR THE TIME BEING. WE INDICATED THAT WE DID NOT ANTICIPATE HAVING SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS PREPARED IN TIME FOR SUBMISSION BY SS-7. COMMENTS ALREADY PREPARED APPARENTLY VARY IN LEVEL OF DETAIL, JUDGING FROM BRIEF ORAL RESUMES GIVEN BY MISSION REPS. UK COMMENTS, FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EXAMPLE, BEGIN WITH STATEMENT THAT UK REMAINS UNCONVINCED OF WISDOM OF CONVERINT UNIDO INTO A SPECIALIZED AGENCY BUT NEVERTHELESS IS OFFERING VIEWS ON VARIOUS SALIENT POINTS OF THE DRAFT STATUTES, E.G. PROCEDURE FOR PROGRAM/BUDGET PRESENTATION AND ADOPTION, SIZE OF IDB, LENGTH OF APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR-GENERAL. UK REP STATED THAT, IN ADDITION, A RELATIVELY LARGE NUMBER OF DETAILED COMMENTS WOULD BE SUBMITTED DURING NEGOTIATING

OF THE STATUTES. SWEDEN FEELS OBJECTIVES AS STATED IN ARTICLE 1 NEED REORDERING AND REWORKING, THAT FUNCTIONS ARE TOO BROADLY STATED IN ARTICLE 2, AND THAT THE RESPECTIVE ROLES OF THE IDB, GENERAL CONFERENCE AND SECRETARIAT IN ARTICLES 7, 8 AND 9 NEED CLARIFICATION.

3. ADDENDUM TO UNIDO 1976-77 PROGRAM/ BUDGET: SWEDEN, AUSTRIA, JAPAN, NORWAY, ITALY, SWITZERLAND AND UK ALL EXPRESSED STRONG OPPOSITION TO GIVING UNIDO THREE DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR POSTS AT ASG LEVEL WITHOUT BETTER SUPPORTING JUSTIFICATION THAN CONTAINED IN ADDENDUM TO 1976-77 PROGRAM/BUDGET. WE INDICATED WE HAD RAISED SAME QUESTIONS WITH DEPARTMENT (REF B). UK WAS MOST NEGATIVE, TAKING THE LINE THAT THERE WAS NO CONCEIVABLE JUSTIFICATION UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES FOR CREATING THREE ASG POSTS IN UNIDO AND STATING THEY WOULD NOT GO ALONG WITH SUCH UNJUSTIFIABLE EXPENSE. AUSTRIA AND SWITZERLAND ARGUED THAT IN ANY CASE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OR SYG SHOULD HAVE LAID THE PROPOSAL BEFORE THE IDB IN ORDER TO GIVE UNIDO'S GOVERNING BODY AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS ITSELF ON THE MATTER BEFORE CONSIDERATION BY THE GA. (NOT CLEAR WHETHER SYG HAS ENDORSED KHANE'S PROPOSAL ALTHOUGH AS REPORTED REF B AFIFI CLAIMS IT HAS FULL NY AGREEMENT.) DISCUSSION ALSO NOTED PREVIOUS GENERAL GROUP B VIEW THAT UNIDO SHOULD HAVE ONE DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND THERE WAS SOME SPECULATION ON WHETHER IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO OBTAIN AGREEMENT OF OTHER GROUPS TO ONLY A SINGLE DEPUTY AT LEAST FOR THE TIME BEING.

4. VARIOUS CRITICISMS WERE LEVELLED AGAINST A PROPOSED NEW PROGRAM ACTIVITIES. UK OBJECTED TO USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF REGULAR BUDGET MONIES TO FINANCE ESTABLISHMENT OF PILOT PLANTS FOR FOOD PROCESSING IN LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES (PARAS 21-25 OF ADDENDUM). ALSO OBJECTED TO RICE BRAN STABILIZER PROJECT (PARAS 35-39 OF ADDENDUM) ON GROUNDS THIS WAS NOT AN APPROPRIATE PROJECT FOR UNIDO BUREAUCRACY TO BECOME INVOLVED IN. SWITZERLAND EXPRESSED GENERAL DISSATISFACTION WITH THE ENTIRE PRESENTATION, SPECIFICALLY OBJECTING TO TEXTILES PROJECT (PARAS 33-34). WE REITERATED OUR STANDING LINE AGAINST FINANCING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TYPE ACTIVITIES FROM THE REGULAR BUDGET. THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT UNIDO SECRETARIAT SHOULD BE PRESSED ON QUESTION OF OFFSETTING PROPOSED ADD-ONS TO PROGRAM/BUDGET AT LEAST IN PART BY POSTPONEMENT OR ELIMINATION OF LOW-PRIORITY ITEMS IN PROGRAM/BUDGET PRESENTED TO IDB-IX.

5. ELECTIONS TO IDB: CHAIRMAN NOTED THAT TERMS OF FINALND, GREECE, FRG, SPAIN AND UK EXPIRE DEC. 31, 1975 AND ASKED FOR INFO ON STATUS OF CANDIDATURES. ONLY INFO AVAILABLE WAS THAT TURKEY RUNNING FOR SEAT TO BE VACATED BY GREECE.

6. RESTURCTURING OF UN: BELGIUM ASKED FOR EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON IMPLICATIONS FOR UNIDO OF EXPERTS' REPORT ON UN RESTRUCTURING, E.G. QUESTION OF ESTABLISHMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT FUND UNDER UNIDO'S CONTROL. CHAIRMAN OPINED THAT GROUP NOT READY FOR SUCH DISCUSSION AND SUGGESTED ANY INTERESTED GROUP B DELS MIGHT MEET INFORMALLY AT LATER DATE FOR THIS PURPOSE.

7. NEXT GROUP B MEETING SEPT. 16. STIBRAVY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENTS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, BUDGET ESTIMATES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: WorrelSW
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975IAEAV07022
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750282-0774
From: IAEA VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750853/aaaabusm.tel
Line Count: 186
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 185595, 75 GENEVA 6104
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: WorrelSW
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <16 SEP 2003 by WorrelSW>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNIDO-GROUP B MEETING-UNIDO DRAFT STATUTES AND PROGRAM/ BUDGET
TAGS: AORG, AFIN, EAID, XX, UNIDO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006